Access Management Research Materials and Guides May 12, 2003

by Philip Demosthenes, Colorado DOT

Documentation of the benefits of access control has been available since 1902. Modern research has directly linked accident rates to access frequency. This has been consistently documented by many research projects for over four decades. The conclusion of the research is that keeping access to the lowest frequency possible, providing good spacing and access design when it is permitted will achieve accident reductions of 30% to 60%. The principals and standards are readily available for any state or local jurisdiction to implement access management and begin realizing the benefits in accident reduction and improved roadway performance.

The following recent resources provide more information on modern access management:

AASHTO, "A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets", 2001 edition includes expanded information and guidance on access management. American Association of State Highway & Transportation Officials, Washington, D.C. 2001

NCHRP Report 420, "Impacts of Access Management Techniques" Transportation Research Board, Washington, D.C. 1999

Transportation Research Circular # 456, "Driveway and Street Intersection Spacing" Transportation Research Board, Washington, D.C. March 1996

NCHRP Synthesis 233, "Land Development Regulations that Promote Access Management" Transportation Research Board, Washington, D.C. 1996

NCHRP Synthesis 289, "Corridor Management", Transportation Research Board, Washington, D.C., 2000

NCHRP Synthesis 299," Recent Geometric Design Research for Improved Safety and Operations", Transportation Research Board, Washington, D.C., 2001

NCHRP Report 348, "Access Management Guidelines for Activity Centers" Transportation Research Board, Washington, D.C., 1992

All NCHRP reports are for sale at: http://www4.nationalacademies.org/trb/onlinepubs.nsf

National Highway Institute Course # 15255 "Access Management, Location and Design", includes an excellent and recently revised class notebook. http://www.nhi.fhwa.dot.gov.

Traffic Engineering Handbook, 5th ed., Institute of Transportation Engineers, 2000 New exclusive chapter on Access Management: A Key to Safety and Mobility. At ITE: http://www.ite.org/

The best collection of access management reports, presentations, references and conference proceeding can be found on the Access Management CD Library 2000, (Dec 2000). You can request a copy from the web site: http://www.accessmanagement.gov This is an FHWA website. Many of the most recent access research and topic papers are available directly from this web site.

Next TRB/FHWA, National Conference on Access Management, hosted by the Texas DOT, will be held in Kansas City, Missouri, August 29 - Sept 1, 2004.

The Colorado State Highway Access Code and other Colorado information is available at http://www.dot.state.co.us/AccessPermits/index.htm

Other Internet sites providing access management materials and links to more include:

Iowa state Univ: http://www.ctre.iastate.edu/Research/access/index.htm

Univ of Florida http://www.cutr.eng.usf.edu/research/access m/publicat.htm

Oregon DOT: http://www.odot.state.or.us/tdb/planning/access mgt/